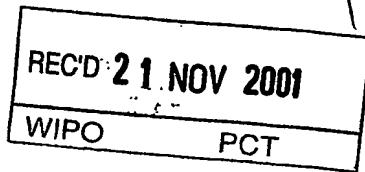


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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference PA/GV99 PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/ GB 00/ 03123 | International filing date (day/month/year) 14/08/2000 | Priority date (day/month/year) 14/08/1999 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A47C17/62 | | |
| Applicant DIXON, Antony Robert et al. | | |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
 This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
These annexes consists of a total of 2 sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the report
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Date of submission of the demand 09/03/2001 | Date of completion of this report 19.11.01 |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. (+49-89) 2399-0, Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: (+49-89) 2399-4465 | Authorized officer Christine Heimann |
| | |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/GB00/03123

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):
Description, pages:

1-7 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-9 as received on 07/11/2001 with letter of 07/11/2001

Drawings, sheets:

1/7-7/7 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/03123

the drawings, sheets:

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):
(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Novelty (N) | Yes: Claims 1-9 |
| | No: Claims |
| Inventive step (IS) | Yes: Claims 1-9 |
| | No: Claims |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Yes: Claims 1-9 |
| | No: Claims |

**2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet**

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:
~~see separate sheet~~

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. State of the art

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: FR-A-467 816

2. Independent claim 1

2.1 The present application meets the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 is novel and involves an inventive step in the sense of Article 33(2) and (3) PCT.

2.2 The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A desk (cf. fig. 1) which comprises a base-structure 5,7,8 and a desk-top 6 supported by the base-structure 5,7,8 and which is convertible for use as a bed by movement of the desk-top 6 relative to the base-structure (cf. page 1, lines 37-43), the desk-top 6 when so moved being supported by the base-structure to extend substantially horizontally on legs from the base-structure 5,7,8 for defining with it an elongate substantially-horizontal support-surface 17 of the bed (cf. fig. 4).

2.3 The subject-matter of claim 1 therefore differs from this known desk in that:
The legs are carried by the desktop, and that the legs are carried by the desk-top in a folded condition for selective deployment in the support of the desk-top extending from the base structure.

2.4 None of the remaining available prior art discloses or suggests the distinguishing features of the amended version of claim 1. Thus, independent claim 1 is novel

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EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB00/03123

and involves an inventive step (Article 33(1) PCT).

3. Dependent claims 2-9

3.1 Claims 2-9 depend on claim 1 and thus they also fulfill the criteria of the PCT in respect of novelty and inventive step (Article 33(1) PCT).

Re Item VII

Certain defects in the international application

1. Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the document D1 is not mentioned in the description, nor is this document identified therein.
2. The features of the claims are not provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).

Claims:

1. A desk which comprises a base-structure and a desk-top supported by the base-structure and which is convertible for use as a bed by movement of the desk-top relative to the base-structure, the desk-top when so moved being supported by the base-structure to extend substantially horizontally on legs from the base-structure for defining with it an elongate substantially-horizontal support-surface of the bed, characterised in that the legs are carried by the desk-top, and that the legs are carried by the desk-top in a folded condition for selective deployment in the support of the desk-top extending from the base-structure.
2. A desk according to Claim 1 wherein the desk-top is pivotally mounted on the base-structure.
3. A desk according to Claim 2 wherein the desk-top is pivoted to a frame-member that is itself pivoted to the base-structure, and wherein the frame-member extends substantially horizontally from the base-structure intermediate the base-structure and the desk-top as part of said support-surface when the desk is converted to a bed as aforesaid.
4. A desk according to any one of Claims 1 to 3 includes recesses for accommodating and retaining a mattress or futon within the desk, the recesses extending within the desk from a first recess covered by the desk-top into a second recess located behind an upright wall of the base-structure.
5. A desk according to Claim 4 wherein the desk-top when moved relative to the base-structure for conversion of the desk to a bed uncovers the first recess part to

enable release of the mattress or futon from within the second recess part for deployment on the support-surface.

6. A desk according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the desk-top is pivoted to the base-structure for lifting up and over to extend upside down substantially horizontally from the base-structure.

7. A desk according to any one of Claims 1, 2 and 6 wherein an upper work-surface of the desk-top is backed by a sheet of plastics foam such that said sheet is uppermost when the desk is converted to a bed as aforesaid.

8. A desk according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 wherein the base-structure is a pedestal-supported panel having an upper surface of plastics foam.

9. A desk according to any one of Claims 1, 2 and 6 to 8 including means for selective adjustment of the height of the base-structure.

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